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TOWNSEND SAN DIEGO

009/015

Appl. No. 09/732,164

PATENT

Amdt. dated September 26, 2003

Reply to Office Action of March 26, 2003

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 24, lines 11 through 20 with the following amended paragraph:

Reference is now made to Figures 2 and 6. As the HPOM stream is forced into the blender 51 through the blender inlet port 52, raw influent is brought into the blender 51 through the raw influent inlet port 62; at a significantly lower pressure than the pressure of the HPOM stream (preferably at zero to negative pressure). The effect is created by the disk suction pump 61 which draws the raw influent and the HPOM into the blender 51 as well as out of the blender 51. This disk suction pump 61 is a conventional vacuum pump such as Model/Part Number 215T CP3768T-4 402-12 provided by the DISCFLO Corporation of San Diego, California or its equivalent. The positioning of the disk suction pump 61, as illustrated in Figure 2, [is important. It] should be positioned between the blender exit port 54 and the separator inlet port 72 in order to draw raw influent and HPOM into and out of the blender 51 [while in the process minimizing, if not eliminating completely, the shear and separation effects created by other pumps as described below].